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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/606,343	06/25/2003	Cristian Petrulescu	MSFT-1734/302203.1	3983
41505	7590	03/06/2006	EXAMINER	
WOODCOCK WASHBURN LLP (MICROSOFT CORPORATION) ONE LIBERTY PLACE - 46TH FLOOR PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103			PIERRE LOUIS, ANDRE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2123	

DATE MAILED: 03/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/606,343

Applicant(s)

PETRULESCU ET AL.

Examiner

Andre Pierre-Louis

Art Unit

2123

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed on 01/27/2006 has been received and fully considered, claims 1-30 are presented for examination.
2. Regarding the double patenting rejection, while both applications are pending, a provisional double patenting will be maintain until either the conflicting claims differentiate from one another or allowed. If allowed, the claims will then evaluated for non-provisional double patenting.
3. With regards to the 35 U.S.C. 101 rejection, while the applicant states that the claims now show "implemented at least in part by in computer", the examiner is unable to locate such limitation in the amended claims, and maintains the 35 U.S.C. 101 rejection of the claims.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed on 01/27/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

4.1 While the applicant argues that the cited references, more specifically Colby et al. and Nwabueze et al., do not teach "tying the first measure to the first dimension by, for each entry of the first attribute, allocating the entry to each entry of the first dimension in a first approximation" and an approximating or tying measure to a dimension, the examiner respectfully disagrees and relies on the combined teachings of Colby et al. an Nwabueze et al., especially Colby et al. fig. 5A-B, col.7 line 42-col.9 line 6; also col.22 line 64-col.24 line 49 and col.18 line 38-col.22 line 10. The examiner further notes that the approximation argues by the applicant was not recited in the

Art Unit: 2123

original claims; however, considering such approximation to be simply a rough estimate, prediction of data, or predefined data, the applicant is also directed to Colby figs.1-5B and their descriptions. The applicant is further directed to fig.8 of Nwabueze et al. and its description.

4.2 While the applicant believes that independent claims 1,11, and 21 should be allowable along with the dependent claims, the examiner respectfully disagrees and asserts that the combined teachings of the reference cited teach all the limitations of the instant invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5.0 Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Colby et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,480,836), in view of Nwabueze et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,775,675).

5.1 In considering the independent claims 1, 11, and 21, Colby et al. substantially teaches a method in combination with first and second tables of data, the first table organizing a first type according to a first attribute, and a second table organizing a second type according to a second attribute, and particularly teaches the steps of: modeling a first measure according to the first type of the first table (*fig. 5A-B*); modeling a first dimension according to the second attribute of the second table (*fig. 5A-B*); and tying the first measure to the first dimension by, for each entry of the first attribute, allocating the entry to each entry of the first dimension in accordance with a first approximation (*fig. 5A-B*, col. 7 line 42-col. 9 line 6). Colby et al. also teaches the processor and memory of claim 17 (see Colby et al. *fig. 3*). Furthermore Nwabueze et al. also teaches the use of a method that models a first and a second dimension as claimed by the applicant and the use of an OLAP system to define the dimension (see Nwabueze et al. col. 4 lines 10-16) and teaches the computer medium with instruction as claimed in claim 11 (see *col. 4 lines 36-51*). Thus, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to combine the teachings of Colby et al. and Nwabueze et al. for the purpose of obtaining a system capable of performing various data analysis in a multi-dimensional data environment. Also in *col. 4 line 52-col. 5 line 3* Nwabueze et al teaches the advantage of being able to create and easily modify dimensions.

5.2 As per claims 2, 12, and 22, the combined teachings of Colby et al. and Nwabueze et al. teach the steps of: modeling a second dimension according to the first attribute of the first table (*see Colby et al. fig. 5A-B*); and tying the first measure to the second dimension according to the first attribute of the first table to allow the first measure to be analyzed by the second dimension according to the first attribute (*see Colby et al. fig. 5A-B, col. 7 line 42-col. 9 line 6*).

5.3 Regarding claims 3, 13, and 23, the combined teachings of Colby et al. and Nwabueze et al. teach modeling a first measure according to the first type of the first table, the first table comprising data stored in a relational database (*see Colby et al. fig. 1A-D, col. 2 lines 1-23 and col. 5 lines 26-37; also see Nwabueze et al. fig. 1 (106) and col. 2 line 66-col. 3 line 6*).

5.4 With regards to claims 4, 14, and 24, the combined teachings of Colby et al. and Nwabueze et al. teach allocating the entry to every one of select entries of the first dimension (*see Colby et al. fig. 1A-C, col. 2 lines 1-23; also see Nwabueze et al. col. 4 lines 36-51*).

5.5 As per claims 5, 15, and 25, the combined teachings of Colby et al. and Nwabueze et al. teach allocating a portion of the entry to each of select entries of the first dimension (*see Colby et al. fig. 1A-D, col. 2 lines 1-23; also see Nwabueze et al. col. 3 line 57-col. 4 line 5*).

5.6 Regarding claims 6, 16, and 26, the combined teachings of Colby et al. and Nwabueze et al. teach allocating an even portion of the entry to each of select entries of the first dimension (*see Colby et al., col. 6 lines 49-65, also col. 2 lines 36-43*).

5.7 With regards to claims 7,17, and 27, the combined teachings of Colby et al. and Nwabueze et al. teach allocating a proportional portion of the entry to each of select entries of the first dimension (see *Colby et al. col.2 lines 36-50, also col.6 lines 49-65*).

5.8 As per claims 8,18, and 28, the combined teachings of Colby et al. and Nwabueze et al. teach allocating all of the entry to a predetermined principal entry of the first dimension (see *Colby fig. 1A-D, col.2 lines 1-23; also Nwabueze et al. col.2 line 66-col.3 line 12*).

5.9 Regarding claims 9,19, and 29, the combined teachings of Colby et al. and Nwabueze et al. teach the steps of: modeling a second measure according to the second type of the second table (see *Colby et al.fig.5A-B, col.24 lines 20-26, also see Nwabueze et al. col.6 line 60-col.7 line 16*); modeling a second dimension according to the first attribute of the first table (see *Colby et al. fig.5A-B*); and tying the second measure to the second dimension by, for each entry of the second attribute, allocating the entry to each entry of the second dimension in accordance with a second approximation (see *Colby et al. fig. 1A-D and fig.5A-B, col.7 line 42-col.9 line 6, also Colby et al. col.18 line 38-col.22 line 10, and Nwabueze et al. col.4 lines 6 lines 26-49*).

5.10 As per claims 10,20, and 30, the combined teachings of Colby et al. and Nwabueze et al. teach the steps of: tying the second measure to the first dimension according to the second attribute of the second table to allow the second measure to be analyzed by the first dimension according to the second attribute (see *Colby et al.*

Art Unit: 2123

fig.5A-B and fig.1A-C, col.22 line 64-col.24 line 49, col.18 line 38-col.22 line 10, also see Nwabueze et al. col.4 lines 6-24 and Nwabueze et al. col.4 lines 6 lines 26-49).

Conclusion

6. Claims 1-30 are rejected and **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andre Pierre-Louis whose telephone number is 571-272-8636. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:00AM-4:30PM.

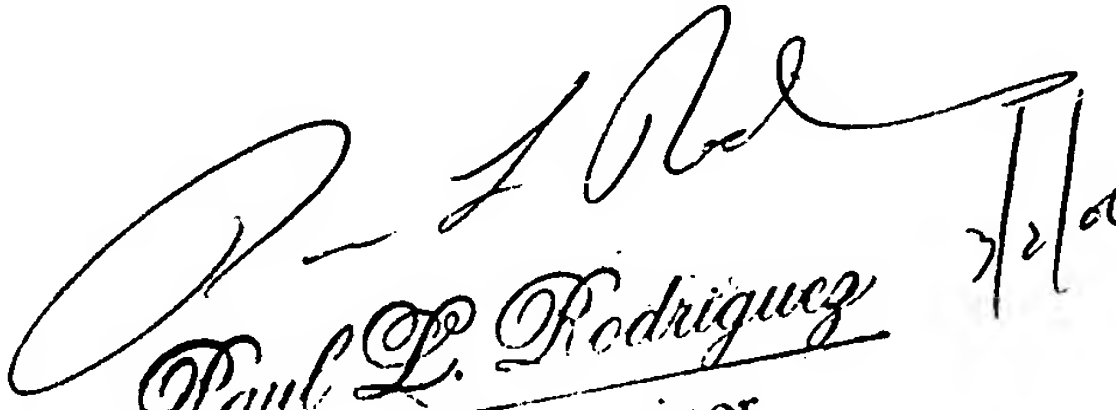
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo P. Picard can be reached on 571-272-3749. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2123

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

February 23, 2006

APL


Paul L. Rodriguez
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2125
7/2/06